

Although the Examiner has held each of three above-identified groups to be patentably distinct, the Examiner nevertheless has required the applicant to select one embodiment from each of these patentably distinct groups. Accordingly, applicant hereby makes the following elections (subject to traversal as noted elsewhere herein):

Group I – applicant elects Figure 10.

Group II – applicant elects Figure 7B.

Group III – applicant elects Figure 8B.

Claims which are readable onto all such elections are believed to comprise claims 1-5 and 14, of which at least claims 1, 2 and 14 are considered generic.

The restriction requirement is respectfully traversed – at least in part because the undersigned does not comprehend the logic behind an election that requires the applicant to choose a combination of features from three patentably distinct species. For example, the injection holes 57 of Figures 10 and 11 are different from the injection hole 57 of Figures 7A-7C and/or Figures 8A-8C. As described in the specification, Figures 7A-7C and 8A-8C all depict modifications of first-side holes (Figures 7A-7C) and second-side holes (Figures 8A-8C) of applicant's first exemplary embodiment. Figure 10 depicts a second exemplary embodiment (and Figure 11 depicts a third exemplary embodiment that is very closely related to that of Figure 10). Other Figures are variously directed to 4th through 10th exemplary embodiments – however the Examiner's restriction requirement does not seem to be logically related to the depicted exemplary embodiments.

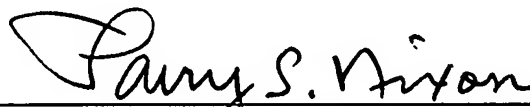
OKAMOTO et al.
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Given the history of responses to this restriction requirement, if the above is deemed in any way to be "incomplete", it is respectfully requested that the undersigned be telephoned so that any deficiency can be promptly corrected without the need for further office actions.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Larry S. Nixon", written over a horizontal line.

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